



# JEFFERSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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## Swimming Pool and Splash Pad Guidance

As preparations are made for possible reopening of swimming pools and splash pads, the Jefferson County Department of Health wants to ensure that all residents remain as safe as they can be in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please find helpful guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at the following website: (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/parks-rec/aquatic-venues.html>).

While efforts can be made to decrease the chance of spreading COVID-19, measures such as those outlined in this document will not fully prevent the possibility of infection with COVID-19 while the virus remains in our community. To ensure these facilities are operating in a safe manner, and as a partner to our local community, the JCDH will provide technical direction to facilities on those guidelines and other best practices. Site plan should be developed for each facility that promote COVID-19 safety—especially those with large contact surface areas or unique features.

### **Establish protocols to maintain at least 6 feet physical distance among people**

- Social distancing must be observed and promoted to patrons and staff to encourage their safety.
  - This means 6 feet of distance should be maintained between participants.
  - A limitation in operating capacity should be enacted to allow for 6 feet of distance.

### **Established protocols to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19 among employees and patrons**

- Wearing a facemasks/face coverings and areas of congestion by the staff where practical.
- Clearly post signs on the front door that states that any patron who has a fever or any other symptoms consistent with COVID-19, including diarrhea, she will not enter the facility or recreational area.
- Normal rules regarding sick patrons on entering the facility are strictly adhered to, and consideration should be given to symptom screenings of people entering the facility.
- All staff should be encouraged to wash hands frequently and maintain a distance of 6 feet between patrons as much as possible.
- High contact surfaces that are utilized during normal business operation should be cleaned frequently.
- Staff who are knowledgeable about CDC guidance should be onsite during operation to address any problems that may arise.
- Check temperature of staff with noncontact thermometer. If the temperature is greater than 100.4 °F or if an employee reports symptoms, the employee should be excluded from work.
  - Employee should also self monitor and stay at home if they have any COVID-19-like illness symptoms.

### **Establish environmental measures to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19**

- Direct the flow of patrons and employees through the facility to reduce person-to-person contact where possible.
- Consider how to allow the use of locker rooms in common areas to maintain physical distancing of at least 6 feet.
- Cancel swimming lessons that required instructor to have physical contact patron.
- High contact surfaces that are utilized during normal business operation should be cleaned frequently.
- Proper chlorination levels should be maintained in the pool water as required by regulations.
- Staff should be onsite to monitor that social distancing rules are being followed. Policies should be developed to exclude those do not follow the rules.
- Removal of shared objects such as pool toys.
- Consider closing slides not directly exposed to the sun.

### **Identified strategies for working with public health to notify patrons and employees at the facility to learn someone who developed COVID-19 may have been infectious to others while at the facility**

- If a facility learns of a person who is tested positive for COVID-19, the confidentiality of the COVID-19 infected person should be respected and maintained at all times.
- Develop plans for temporary closure of the facility to properly disinfected and sure other employees and other persons of frequent the facility are not infected
- Consult the Jefferson County Department of Health for guidance for specific situations as necessary